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INQUIRE=DOC17D
ITEM NO=00396878
ENVELOPE
CDSN = LGX520 MCN = 92091/43959 TOR = 920912119
OTTCZYUW RUEKJCS5165 0912121-CCCC--RUEALGX.
ZNY CCCCC
HEADER
O 312121Z MAR 92
FM JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC
INFO RUENAAA/CNO WASHINGTON DC
RUEAHQA/CSAF WASHINGTON DC
RUFGAID/USEUCOM AIDES VAIHINGEN GE
RUEKCCG/USDP-CCC WASHINGTON DC
RHLBAAA/USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PM
RULSJGA/COGARD INTELCOORDCEN WASHINGTON DC
RUWTPGA/12 AF BERGSTROM AFB TX//IN//
RUCEAAM/HQ NORAD INTEL CEN CHEYENNE MTN AFB CO//J2V//
RUEOACC/CDRPSYOPGP FT BRAGG NC//AORC-POG-SB//
RUANJTF/CJTF FOUR
RHCGSRB/CINCFOR FT MCPHERSON GA//FCJ2-IC/FCJ3-OD//
RUWANGC/CJTF FIVE//J20//
RUWSMXI/MAC INTEL CEN SCOTT AFB IL//IN//
RUCQVAB/USCINCSOC INTEL OPS CEN MACDILL AFB FL
RUWTKDA/CJTF SIX
RULKQAN/MARCORINTCEN QUANTICO VA
RUEALGX/SAFE
O 312127Z MAR 92
FM AMEMBASSY LA PAZ
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8606
RUEABND/DEA EPIC
RUEAIIA/CIAHQS WASHDC
RUEADWW/NSC WASHDC
RHLBAAA/USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PM//SCDCS/SCJ2-DEA-LNO/SCCG//
RUEBWJA/USINS WASHDC
RUEBWJA/USINS WASHDC
RULSJGA/COMCOGARD WASHDC//OLE/CI/O//
RHEHOND/ONDCP WASHDC
RHLBAAA/USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PM//SCJ2/
RUEKJCS/DIA WASHDC//CD-JIC-TS//
RUEHIA/USIA WASHDC//2061// 2089
RUCOCGA/COGARD DIAT PORTSMOUTH VA
RUEOHNA/CDR7THSFGA FT BRAGG NC
RULGSGG/COMLANTAREACOGARD NEW YORK NY//AOO/AI/AO//
BT
CONTROLS
C O N F I D E N T I A L LA PAZ 005165

STATE FOR ARA/AND, INM
DEAHQS FOR A, AD, DO, AO, OF, OFL, OC OC/SNOWCAP, OIOC
INS RELEASE PASS TO BORDER PATROL
NSC FOR R. BEERS

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
IS/FPC/CDR Date: 5/26/95
[X] RELEASE [X] DECLASSIFY
[ ] EXCISE [ ] DECLASSIFY
[ ] DENY [ ] PART
[ ] DELETE Non-Responsive Info
FOIA Exemptions
PA Exemptions
MR Cases Only:
EO Citations
TS authority to:
[ ] CLASSIFY as [ ] S or [ ] C OADR
[ ] DOWNGRADE TS to [ ] S or [ ] C OADR

ONDCP FOR J. WALTERS
USIA FOR AR

E.O. 12356: DECL:OADR
BODY
TAGS: SNAR, BL
SUBJECT: NARCOTICS ENFORCEMENT OPERATION "GHOST ZONE"
SITUATION AS OF 1100 HRS, 31 MARCH.

REF: (A) LA PAZ 05116 (B) LA PAZ 04843 (C) LA PAZ 04787 (D) LA PAZ 05029

1. CONFIDENTIAL ENTIRE TEXT.
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2. LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS HAVE TABULATED THE RESULTS OF THE FIRST WEEK OF OPERATIONS FOR OPERATION GHOST ZONE. AN IMPRESSIVE AMOUNT OF GOODS, NARCOTICS AND PRECURSOR CHEMICALS HAVE BEEN SEIZED, AS THE FOLLOWING LIST INDICATES:

COCA LEAF	-	7,015 KG. (KILOGRAMS)
COCAINE PASTE	-	3 KG.
COCAINE BASE	-	355 KG.
AGUA RICA	-	3,359 KG.

PRECURSORS:

LIME	-	917 KG.
BICARBONATE	-	109 KG.
POTASSIUM PERM.	-	78 KG.
AMMONIA	-	169 L. (LITERS)
KEROSENE	-	620 L.
SULFURIC ACID	-	280 L.
BLEACH	-	900 KG.

3. IN ADDITION, UMOPAR/SNOWCAP UNITS DESTROYED 34 COCAINE BASE LABORATORIES, THREE PASTE LABORATORIES AND FOUR AIRSTRIPS. OVER 300 PERSONS HAVE BEEN ARRESTED THUS FAR INCLUDING THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS OF SIGNIFICANCE: AN INSTRUCTOR IN TERRORIST TACTICS FOR THE TUPAK KATARI TERRORIST ORGANIZATION, A MAJOR SUPPLIER FOR COLOMBIAN TRAFFICKING GROUPS, THREE OTHER MAJOR BUYERS AND A HIT MAN WANTED FOR THE ASSASSINATION OF AN UMOPAR OFFICER. OVER 300 OTHER SUSPECTS HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED AS TARGETS FOR FUTURE GHOST ZONE OPERATIONS.

4. AS REPORTED IN REF A, A MAJOR SEIZURE OF ILLICIT COCA LEAF OCCURRED AT THE CASTILLO CHECKPOINT AT THE ENTRANCE TO THE "RED ZONE" OF NORTHWESTERN CHAPARE WHEN OVER 3,000 KGS. OF LEAF WAS CONFISCATED BY

COMBINED UMOPAR AND DINACO (COCA LEGAL) OPERATIVES. THIS AND OTHER SEIZURES BROUGHT THE TOTAL FOR THE WEEK TO OVER 7,000 KGS., ONE OF THE HIGHEST WEEKLY TOTALS EVER RECORDED IN THE CHAPARE. THE COCAINE BASE SEIZURES ALSO WERE SIGNIFICANTLY HIGH.

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5. INTERESTINGLY, PRICES BOTH FOR COCA LEAF AND COCAINE BASE SKYROCKETED IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE MAJOR SEIZURES OF EACH. THIS PHENOMENON PROBABLY OCCURRED AS A RESULT OF ENORMOUS SEIZURES THAT RESTRICTED THE SUPPLY OF EACH COMMODITY AVAILABLE ON THE MARKET. DEMAND REMAINED CONSTANT, AND THEREFORE THE PRICE FOR THE SMALL AMOUNT OF REMAINING COCA INCREASED PROPORTIONATELY. ONCE THE COUNTERNARCOTICS OPERATIONS CAUSE THE AGENTS FOR MAJOR BUYERS TO CURB THEIR ACTIVITIES,,THERE SHOULD BE A DROP IN DEMAND AND A COMMENSURATE FALL IN PRICE. WE ANTICIPATE THAT THE PRICE DECREASE IN TIME WILL ENCOURAGE FARMERS TO CULTIVATE ALTERNATIVE CROPS AND TO ENTER GOVERNMENT VOLUNTARY ERADICATION PROGRAMS IN ORDER TO RECEIVE CASH COMPENSATION PAYMENTS.

BOWERS

ADMIN

BT

#5165

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